John 1:19-23

"And this is the record of John, when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, Who art thou?

And he confessed, and denied not; but confessed, I am not the Christ.

And they asked him, What then? Art thou Elias? And he saith, I am not. Art thou that prophet? And he answered, No.

Then said they unto him, Who art thou? that we may give an answer to them that sent us. What sayest thou of thyself?

He said, I am the voice of one crying in the wilderness, Make straight the way of the Lord, as said the prophet Esaias."

This truly shows how greatly John loved his people. John understood that the children of Israel needed to be saved from their sins, and he desired for them to be saved, but he knew that he could not save them. For John, because he loved his people, it grieved him to see his people in the state that they were, and it grieved him much that he could do nothing to change it…for he himself also needed to be saved. Which is why he confessed, and denied not, but confessed. For John, if he was the Christ, then he would save his people, whom he loved. But he was not, and he could not, thus from the heart he confessed he was not the Christ.

But John understood that there was one coming after him, who was preferred before him, who could save his people…and he it was who was the Christ. He it was who, unlike John and anyone else, could do something to change the current state of the Jews…who could save them from their sins. So John rejoiced and embraced the role he was given, which was a very important role, to prepare the way for the Messiah. And with much zeal John

preached and baptized with water so that the Christ should be made manifest to Israel.

This brings to mind an occurrence that transpired in Revelation with John the Apostle:

"And I saw a strong angel proclaiming with a loud voice, Who is worthy to open the book, and to loose the seals thereof?

And no man in heaven, nor in earth, neither under the earth, was able to open the book, neither to look thereon.

And I wept much, because no man was found worthy to open and to read the book, neither to look thereon.

And one of the elders saith unto me, Weep not: behold, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, hath prevailed to open the book, and to loose the seven seals thereof."

(Revelation 5:2-5)

John wept much for not only he, but no one else could open the book, and John very much desired for the book to be opened. If John could open it, then he would, but neither he nor anyone else could and so he wept. If John was asked at that moment if he could open the book, John would have denied not, but confessed, with much tears, that he could not. But there was no need to weep, for there was one who could open the book, the Lion of the tribe of Juda, the Root of David.

It can be likened unto a servant who was sent by his master unto his homeland, which was experiencing a shortage of food. The master tasks the servant with exhorting the people to begin to till their soil, and he will come at a later time to give them seeds to plants. The servant comes unto his people, whom he loves dearly, and begins to exhort them to begin tilling

their soil, for his master will come and provide them seeds to plant to grow food. Some take heed unto him and begin to till their soil, and some don't.

As the servant is telling many to begin tilling their soil, some come unto him and ask:

"Dost thou have seeds to give unto us, seeing thou commandest all to till their ground?"

The servant denies not, but confesses:

"I have not any seed to give unto you. I truly wish I did; for if I did, I would give it unto you. But I don't."

"But my master has seeds to give unto you. He it is who hast sent me unto my people to tell them to begin tilling their soil; and so I tell. It is he who has seeds in abundance and in much variety to give unto you. But he shall only give it to those who desire it."

John the Baptists couldn't save his people, and John the Apostle could not open the 7 seals, and they very much desired to, but they could not. However, there was one who could:

The Lamb of God, the Lion of the tribe of Juda, the Root of David. All glory and honor be to him, the King of kings and Lord of Lords. Amen!